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6/24/98

BACKGROUND: ALGERIAN MILITARY TACTICS

- I. Details on the deployment of French forces are scanty.
- II. To combat rebel guerrilla operations, the French are engaging in limited offensive measures with punitive forces of company, battalion and perhaps regimental size.
- A. Only about 25,000 troops (15%) are reportedly involved in these operations.
- B. The remaining 85% of French forces are deployed defensively. These defensive forces are allegedly able to converge speedily on threatened or attacked localities, thus maintaining or regaining control.
- C. This works by day, but at night the French withdraw their strong points and the countryside is open to guerilla activity.